

CAXTON & ARRINGTON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1918,

BY

DR. P. HUGHES DUDLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

*To the Caxton and Arrington
Rural District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report for 1918 is herewith presented, being condensed as far as possible.

Population. The population for birth-rate purposes is estimated as 7,395. The population for death-rate purposes (civilian population only) is estimated at 6,600.

Births. The total of births for the year is 106, nine being illegitimate. The birth-rate per 1,000 is 14.29, an increase of nearly 1 per 1,000.

Deaths One hundred and one were registered in the district, with a death-rate of 15.33. To this total must be added 12 deaths of residents not registered in the district, raising the total of deaths to 113, with a death-rate of 17.12 per 1,000 this being more than 1 per 1,000 less than in 1917.

Infantile Mortality. Thirteen children died under one year of age, with a death-rate of 128.71 per 1,000 of registered births, more than double that of 1917. Of these 2 were illegitimate, apart from dead body found in pond.

Of these 13 deaths, 5 were from premature birth, 3 from debility at birth, 1 from asthenia, 1 from catarrhal jaundice, 1 from probably convulsions, 1 from anæmia, and 1 "found dead" in pond.

Infectious Diseases. Sixty cases were notified during the year. They were made up as follows. Measles and German measles 36, erysipelas 3, pulmonary tuberculosis 13, other forms of tuberculosis 8.

Measles and German Measles. There were numerous cases occurring all through the district, with 1 fatal case, occurring from pneumonia.

Tuberculosis. Twenty-one cases in all were notified, 8 more than in 1917. There were 13 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 8 of other forms of tuberculosis, including 2 of glands of thorax, 1 of bones, 1 of kidney, 1 of joints, 1 of peritoneum, 1 of intestines, and 1 of larynx.

Influenza. There was a wide-spread epidemic of influenza, commencing in October and lasting till the latter end of December.

The mortality was low, the total number of deaths registered from this disease for the year was 13. The total number of cases were roughly 600-700. A special report on the epidemic was issued in January last.

Venereal Diseases. These cases are not notified, but there does not seem to be any marked increase in this district. These cases are treated without payment at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Cancer. Nine cases of cancer occurred in the death returns, 4 less than during the year 1917.

Respiratory Diseases. Eight cases occurred from diseases of respiratory organs (apart from tuberculosis), 10 less than in 1917.

Heart Disease. Eight deaths in all were recorded from heart disease.

Tuberculosis. Twelve deaths in all, 9 from pulmonary tuberculosis, 1 from tuberculous meningitis, and 2 from other forms of tuberculosis.

House Inspection. The inspection of houses under the Housing Act has been carried out regularly by the Sanitary Inspector.

The following is the table required by the Local Government Board, showing the action taken during the year under the Town Planning Act, and the results obtained.

TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Number of Houses Inspected	...	...	90
Number found unfit for habitation	...	...	12
Number of representations made to Local Authority			49
Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	1
Number of Houses in which defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders		...	1
Number of Houses made fit after Closing Order was served	...	...	—
Statutory Notices served	...	...	12
Informal Notices served	...	...	30

No new houses have been built during 1918.

Dairies and Cowsheds. The 21 dairies and cowsheds have been regularly inspected, and any necessary action taken at once.

Slaughter Houses. These buildings, seven in number, have been examined from time to time, and their condition is satisfactory.

Factory and Workshops Act. Those premises falling within the provisions of this Act have been duly inspected.

Elementary Schools. In conjunction with the School Medical Officer, certain Schools have been closed, when considered advisable, owing to outbreaks of infectious disease.

Subjoined is a Summary of the Sanitary Inspector's work during 1918.

I have the honor to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. HUGHES DUDLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1918.

Number of Complaints received during the year	..	8
Number of Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected	... ..	130
Number of Re-inspection of Houses, Premises, &c.	... ..	120
Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises	... ..	60
Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, White- washed, &c.	... ..	46
Houses Disinfected after illness of an infectious nature	... ..	15
House Drains Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, &c.	...	8
New Drains for Cottages	... ..	12
Privies Repaired, &c.	... ..	29
Pails—New provided	... ..	8
Dust Bins—New provided	... ..	—
Ditto—Repaired, Covered, &c.	... ..	—
Water Supply—Wells (new) provided	... ..	—
Ditto—Wells Cleansed, Repaired and Covered	...	—
Removal of Accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	... ..	—
Bakehouses Inspected	... ..	15
Licensed Cowsheds Inspected	... ..	21
Slaughter Houses Inspected	... ..	7
Schools Disinfected	... ..	3